be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cotton Corporation of India is paying more to cotton growers compared to the price paid by Marashtra in its Monopoly Cotton Scheme including bonus and profit sharing if so, why Cotton Corporation of India and other cooperatives are not allowed to purchase in Maharashtra to help cotton growers of Maharashtra State also; and

(d) what is the profit/loss during the last three years including 1992-93 in Maharashtra Cotton Monopoly Scheme and also in CCI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir. The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) and other agencies are not allowed to purchase cotton in Maharashtra in view of the operation of Maharashtra Cotton Monopoly Scheme.

(b) The profit/loss position in respect of Cotton Corporation of India and Maharashtra Monopoly Scheme during the last 3 years is as under:—

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Cotton corpn. of India (Before tax)	Maharashtra Monopoly Scheme
1990-91	68.85	205.82
1991-92	51.98	192.42
1992-93	60.11 (Prov.)	64.00 (approx. expected)

Insisting on Import of silk of International standards

2733. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that almost 75 per cent of the imports of Chinese silk into India is of ungraded quality, unsuitable for manufacture of export worthy products;

(b) whether Government would consider immediate ban on import of silk from China or at least insist on imports of silk of only 2-A grade or above which meets the International Standards; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that indigenous production has almost reached 16,000 tonnes in 1992-93 but there has not been any corresponding increase in exports of silk goods and if so, whether Government would follow Thailand where exporters are only allowed to import 66 per cent of what they export and are asked to mix one Kg of local yarn with every two Kg. of imported variety?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c) The imports of raw silk are basically allowed under the export promotion schemes of the Export-Import Policy and such imports are made directly by the import licens holders. Government have received representations that low grade raw silks were also being imported and such imports were affecting the prices of indigenous raw silk.

While there is no proposal to impose a ban on imports of raw silk (including Chinese silk), the Government are contemplating various steps to stablise the prices of indigenous raw silk including review of the provisions of the Advance Licensing Scheme for silk textile products. In this connection, the suggestions for allowing imports of raw silk of only 2-A grade or above and the need to restrict the quantum of imports have been taken note of.